

# Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Child and Family Safeguards



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### **Definitions**

Appropriate Early Intervention Services are those "designed to meet the developmental needs of each child eligible under Part C and the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development" in Federal Part C regulations <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2011-09-28/pdf/2011-22783.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2011-09-28/pdf/2011-22783.pdf</a> In Idaho, these services are determined through the process of creating an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for a child and their family. The IFSP must include a statement of the specific early intervention services necessary to meet the unique needs of the child and family to achieve the outcomes identified in the IFSP document.

Destruction means physical destruction or removal of personal identifiers from information to ensure that it is no longer personally identifiable.

Early Intervention Records, "Education record(s)", or "record(s)" means all records regarding a child that are required to be collected, maintained, or used under Part C.

Mediators and Due Process Hearing Officers must be impartial, which means the person appointed to serve as a mediator or hearing officer:

- (1) Is not an employee of the state lead agency, early intervention services contractor, or early intervention services provider involved in providing early intervention services, other services, or care of the child, and
- (2) Does not have a personal or professional interest that would conflict with his or her objectivity in implementing the process. A person who otherwise qualifies as a mediator or hearing officer is not an employee of the state lead agency, early intervention services contractor, or early intervention services provider solely because the person is paid by the agency or program to implement the mediation or due process hearing provisions.

Native Language, where used to refer to people with limited English language skills, means the language normally used by the parent/guardian. When conducting evaluations and assessments of the child, native language means the language normally used by that child. When used with respect to a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired, or for a person with no written language, native language means the mode of communication that is normally used by that person (such as sign language, Braille, or oral communication).

Parent: Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), a "Parent" is defined as the biological or adoptive parent, foster parent, guardian, surrogate parent, or other individual acting as a parent.

Part C: Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (or IDEA) refers to a federal grant program that assists states in operating a comprehensive statewide program of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Participating Agency/Provider: In Idaho, early intervention services are provided by Infant Toddler Program staff members as well as other qualified providers who are under contract with the State. "Participating agency" means any individual, agency, entity or institution that collects, maintains, or uses personally identifiable information to implement the requirements in Part C. A participating agency includes the state lead agency, each early intervention services contractor or early intervention services provider that provides Part C services (including service coordination, evaluations and assessments and other Part C services). It does not include primary referral sources or public or private agencies that fund early intervention services.

Personally Identifiable Information includes: (1) child's name, family members' names; (2) the address of child or family; (3) personal identifiers such as social security numbers; (4) other indirect identifiers, such as child's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name; (5) personal characteristics or other information that would make it possible to identify the child with reasonable certainty; or (6) information requested by a person whom the Infant Toddler Program reasonably believes knows the identity of the child.

Service Coordination is defined under IDEA as an active, ongoing process that assists and enables families to access services and assures their rights and procedural safeguards. In Idaho, the person who fulfills that role is called a Service Coordinator (SC).

State Lead Agency: In each state, the governor must designate a lead agency to receive the federal Part C Early Intervention grant and administer the program. In Idaho, the lead agency is the Department of Health and Welfare, Infant Toddler Program.

#### Introduction

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that includes provisions for early intervention services for eligible infants and toddlers (ages birth - 36 months) with disabilities and their families. These provisions are included under *Part C of IDEA*. These are described in federal regulations (34 CFR Part 303) and in the State of Idaho's policies and procedures.

In Idaho, the Part C system is called the Infant Toddlers Program (ITP). The system is designed to maximize family involvement and ensure parental consent at each step of the early intervention process, beginning with initial referral and continuing through service delivery and transition.

The Infant Toddler Program includes procedural safeguards to protect the rights of parents and children. Parents must be informed about these procedural safeguards as defined under federal regulations at 34 CFR 303.400-438, including dispute resolution options at 34 CFR 303.430-438, so that they can be actively involved and have a leadership role in the services provided to their child and family. This Child and Family Safeguards document is an official notice of the procedural safeguards of children and families as defined under federal Part C regulations.

Additional information about child and family procedural safeguards is available through the Infant Toddler Program which is responsible for Part C early intervention services at the community level. Specifically, this information is provided by local agencies and providers that participate in the Idaho Infant Toddler Program.

**Service Coordinators** working with families can suggest additional materials to help your family understand your procedural safeguards under Part C. They can also suggest ways that parents, guardians, and family members can partner with professionals to meet the developmental needs of your child.

# **Overview of Procedural Safeguards (Parent Rights)**

Within the Infant Toddler Program, you, as a parent, have the following rights:

- The right to a multidisciplinary evaluation and assessment and the development of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) within 45 calendar days from referral.
- The right to receive evaluation, assessment, IFSP development, service coordination, and procedural safeguards at no cost to you and your family.
- The right to receive an evaluation (if you request and provide consent for it) at any time during the screening process (if used).
- If eligible under Part C, the right to receive appropriate early intervention services as addressed in an IFSP.
- The right to refuse screening, evaluations, assessments, and services.
- The right to be invited to, and participate in, all meetings in which a decision is expected to be made regarding a proposal to change the identification, evaluation, or placement of your child, or the provision of appropriate early intervention services to your child or family.
- The right to receive timely written notice before a change is proposed or refused in the identification, evaluation, or placement of your child, or in the provision of appropriate early intervention services to your child or family.
- The right to receive each early intervention services in natural environments to the extent appropriate to meet your child's developmental needs.
- The right to maintenance of the confidentiality of personally identifiable information.
- The right to obtain an initial copy of your child's early intervention record at no cost.
- The right to a copy of each evaluation, assessment, and IFSP which must be provided as soon as possible after each IFSP meeting.
- The right to inspect and review and, if appropriate, amend your child's records.
- The right to request mediation and/or an impartial due process hearing to resolve parent/provider disagreements.

• The right to file an administrative complaint.

In addition to the rights noted above, you are entitled to be notified of specific procedural safeguards under Part C, as described below.

## **Prior Written Notice**

Prior written notice must be given to you within a reasonable time before an early intervention service provider proposes or refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or placement of your child, or the provision of appropriate early intervention services to your child and your family. The notice must be sufficiently detailed to inform you about:

- The action that is being proposed or refused by the early intervention services provider.
- The reasons for taking the action.
- All procedural safeguards available under Part C.
- The state's mediation, state complaint, and due process hearing procedures, including a
  description of how to file a complaint and the timelines for those procedures.



The notice must be written in language understandable to the general public and provided in your **native language**, unless clearly not feasible to do so.

If your native language or other mode of communication is not a written language, the early intervention service provider shall take steps to ensure that:

- The notice is translated orally or by other means to you in your native language or other mode of communication;
- You understand the notice; and
- There is written documentation that the requirements described in these procedures have been met.

If you are given notice that your child is not eligible for early intervention services, you have the right to dispute that decision using the process described in the "Dispute Resolution Procedures" section of this document.

#### Parental Consent means that:

- You have been fully informed of all information relevant to the activity for which consent is sought, in your native language;
- You understand and agree in writing to the carrying out of the activity for which consent is sought, and the consent describes the
  activity and lists the early intervention records (if any) that will be released and to whom;
- You understand that the granting of consent is voluntary on your part and may be revoked at any time.

If you revoke your consent, it is not retroactive (it does not apply to an action that occurred before consent was revoked).

Your written consent must be obtained before:

- Administering a developmental screening to determine whether your child is suspected of having a disability.
- Conducting all evaluations and assessment of your child.
- Providing early intervention services to your child.
- Using public benefits or insurance or private insurance to pay for services.
- Sharing personally identifiable information about you and your child.

Your written consent must also be obtained before early intervention services are provided.

If you do not provide consent, no action will be taken to coerce you. In other words, the Idaho Infant Toddler Program may not use the due process hearing procedures to challenge your refusal to provide consent. The Infant Toddler Program shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that you:

- Are fully aware of the nature of the available screening, evaluation and assessments or the services that would be available.
- Understand that your child will not be able to receive the screening, evaluation and assessments, or the services unless consent is given.

However, if refusal to consent for screening, evaluation or assessment, or services constitutes neglect or abuse as defined in the Child Protective Act, Idaho Code Sec. 16-1601 et seq., the Infant Toddler Program will notify you of the concerns and then make a verbal or written referral to Child Protection Services.

As the parent of a child eligible under Part C, you determine whether your child or other family members will accept or decline any early intervention service(s) under Part C at any time in accordance with Idaho law. You may also decline a service (except the administrative functions required under the regulations for **Service Coordination**) after first accepting it without jeopardizing other early intervention services under the Idaho Infant Toddler Program. Finally, you have the right to written notice of, and written consent to, the billing of any public or private insurance and the exchange of any personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained under Part C, consistent with federal and state law.

#### **Records**

The Infant Toddler Program and Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB) are participating agencies in Idaho's early intervention system with a signed Interagency Agreement. This means that if a child is served by both IESDB and the Infant Toddler Program, each agency shares information about the child with the other (including evaluations and medical records) and share access to that child's electronic records and documentation of the services provided.

The Idaho Infant Toddler Program is part of the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW). If you apply for or receive services/benefits through other Health and Welfare programs, ITP may share your child's records/information with those programs (e.g. Developmental Disabilities, Medicaid, Idaho Sound Beginnings, etc.) to help with eligibility and service decisions.

## Confidentiality

In accordance with the confidentiality of information procedures outlined in this document, you must be given the opportunity to inspect and review any records relating to screening, evaluations and assessments, eligibility determinations, development and implementation of IFSPs, provision of early intervention services, individual complaints concerning your child, and any other portion of the Part C program involving records about your child and your family.

Each participating agency/provider must give you the opportunity to inspect and review (during business hours) any records relating to your child or family that are collected, maintained or used by the contractor or provider under Part C from the point in time when your child is referred for early intervention services until the date when the agency is no longer required to maintain or no longer maintains the information under applicable federal and state laws. The early participating agency/provider must comply with a request without unnecessary delay and before any meeting regarding an IFSP or hearing relating to identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of services for your child and family and, in no case, more than 10 calendar days after the request has been made. The opportunity to inspect and review early intervention records includes:

- 1. The right to a response from the participating agency/provider to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the record;
- 2. The right to request that the participating agency/provider provides records containing the information if failure to provide those copies would effectively prevent you from exercising the opportunity to inspect and review the records; and
- 3. The right to have someone who is representing you inspect and review the record.

A participating agency/provider may presume that you have the authority to inspect and review records related to your child unless the agency or provider has been provided documentation that you do not have the authority under applicable state law governing such matters as custody, foster care, guardianship, separation, and divorce.

Each participating agency/provider shall keep a written record of parties obtaining access to records collected, obtained or used under Part C (except access by parents and authorized employees of such contractor or provider), including the name of the party, the date access was given, and the purpose for which the party is authorized to use the child's record.

If any early intervention record includes information on more than one child, you may inspect and review only the information relating to your child, or you, or you may be informed of that specific information.

Each participating agency/provider shall provide you, upon request, a list of the types and locations of **early intervention records** collected, maintained, or used by the contractor or provider. A participating agency/provider may charge a fee for copies of records that are made for you under Part C if the fee does not effectively prevent you from exercising your opportunity to inspect and review those records. However, they may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve information under Part C. In addition, you must also be provided at no cost a copy of each evaluation, assessment of the child, family assessment, and the IFSP as soon as possible after each IFSP meeting. There is no charge for copies of up to 99 pages. Orders of 100 pages or more will be charged at 10 cents per page.

If you believe that information in early intervention records collected, maintained, or used under Part C is inaccurate or misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of you or your child, you may request the participating agency/provider that maintains the information to amend the information.

 Such agency or provider must decide whether to amend the information in accordance with the request within a reasonable period of time after it receives the request. • If such agency or provider refuses to amend the information as you request, you must be informed of the refusal and be advised of the right to a hearing.

The participating agency/provider must, on request, provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge information in early intervention records to ensure that it is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of you and your child. You may request a due process hearing under Part C procedures or hearing procedures that are consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations at 34 CFR 99.22.

- If, as a result of the hearing, such agency or provider decides that the information **is** inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of you and your child, it must amend the information accordingly and must inform you in writing.
- If, as a result of the hearing, such contractor or provider decides that the information **is not** inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of you and your child, you must be informed of your right to place in the records of your child a statement commenting on the information, and setting forth any reasons for disagreeing with the decision of the contractor or provider.
- Any explanation placed in the records of your child under these procedures must be maintained by the participating agency/provider as
  part of the records of your child as long as the record or contested portion (that part of the record with which you disagree) is maintained
  by such agency or provider.
- If the records of your child or the contested portion are disclosed by such agency or provider to any party, your explanation must also be disclosed to the party.

## **Consent Prior to Disclosure**

Parental consent must be obtained before personally identifiable information is:

- Disclosed to anyone other than officials of the participating agency or provider in collecting, maintaining, or using information under Part C, unless authorized to do so under Part C (34 CFR 303.414) and FERPA (34 CFR 99.31); or
- Used for any purpose other than meeting a requirement under Part C.



Information from your child's early intervention record cannot be released without your consent unless the participating agency or provider is authorized to do so under FERPA. If you refuse to provide consent, the participating agency/ provider implements procedures related to refusal, such as explaining to you how not providing consent affects the ability of your child to receive early intervention services, as long the procedures do not override your right to refuse consent.

Under Part C, the Idaho Infant Toddler Program is required to release, without your consent, your child's name and date of birth, and your contact information (including your names, addresses, and telephone numbers) to the Idaho State Department of Education and your local school district where your child resides. This information is needed to identify all children potentially eligible for services under Part B of IDEA.

The following safeguards must be in place to ensure confidentiality of records:

- Each participating agency/provider must protect the personally identifiable information at collection, maintenance, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages.
- One official of each participating agency/provider is responsible for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information.
- All persons collecting or using personally identifiable information must receive training or instruction regarding Idaho's Part C policies and procedures which comply with IDEA and FERPA.
- Each participating agency/provider must maintain, for public inspection, a current listing of the names and positions of those employees within the agency who have access to personally identifiable information.
- The participating agency/provider must inform you when personally identifiable information collected, maintained, or used is no longer needed to provide services to your child or family under Part C, the GEPA provisions in 20 USC 1232f, and EDGAR, 34 CFR parts 76 and 80.
- Once the information is no longer needed for service provision to the child or family, the information must be destroyed at the request
  of the parents.

Your child's records will be **destroyed** six years after your child's early intervention services have ended. You may request a copy of the records before they are destroyed. The Idaho Infant Toddler Program will remind you about this policy and tell you how you can request a copy of the file when your child leaves early intervention services (at or before age three). After that, the Idaho Infant Toddler Program will not send you another notice before the file is destroyed.

Permanent records of your child's name, date of birth, parent contact information (including address and phone number), names of service coordinator(s), and early intervention provider(s), and exit data (including year and age upon exit, and any programs entered into upon exiting) may be maintained by the lead agency without time limitations. Children's records are maintained in a secure location, and the

Program must have your written consent before your child's records are shared with anyone outside DHW or the participating agency.

## **Dispute Resolution Procedures**

If you have a concern about your child's early intervention program/services, please share it with your Service Coordinator or IFSP team as soon as possible. The Idaho Infant Toddler Program encourages resolution of disagreements at the lowest level possible. However, if a concern cannot be resolved informally, dispute resolution options are available.

If you disagree with an early intervention service provider on the identification, evaluation, placement of your child, or provision of appropriate early intervention services to your child or family, you may request a timely resolution of your concerns.

The following are the three formal procedures available to you for dispute resolution. These include mediation, an impartial due process hearing, and an administrative complaint.

## Mediation

Mediation provides an opportunity for you to resolve a disagreement (e.g., individual child complaint) in a non-adversarial way. It is voluntary and must be freely agreed to by both parties. Any party may request mediation at any time.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is responsible for the cost associated with the cost of mediation including the cost of any meetings to encourage mediations. For information on where to file a request for mediation, see the Contact Information at the end of this document.

The **state lead agency** may offer parents and providers who choose not to use the mediation process an opportunity to meet (at a time and location convenient to you) with a disinterested party (impartial **mediator**), who is under contract with a dispute resolution entity, or a parent training and information center or community parent resource center in the state, to explain the benefits of, and encourage the use of, the mediation process.

Mediation must be completed in a timely manner following receipt by the state lead agency of a request for mediation and may not be used to deny or delay your rights to an impartial due process hearing or to deny any of your other rights under Part C.

The state lead agency will contact both parties (i.e., you and the provider) to review the complaint and complete the mediation process. The mediation will be scheduled in a timely manner and held in a location that is convenient to both parties. A qualified and impartial mediator, who is trained in effective mediation techniques, will meet with both parties to help find a solution to the dispute in an informal, non-adversarial atmosphere.

The state lead agency maintains a list of qualified impartial mediators who are knowledgeable of the laws and regulations relating to the provision of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. Mediators must be selected on a random, rotational, or other impartial basis.

If the disagreement is resolved through mediation, the parties must complete a legally binding agreement that describes the resolution and that states that all discussions that occurred during the mediation process must be confidential and may not be used as evidence in any subsequent due process hearings or civil proceedings. The agreement must be signed by you and a representative of the state lead agency who has the authority to bind the agency. The written, signed mediation agreement is enforceable in any state court of competent jurisdiction or in a district court of the United States.

Mediation does not restrict you from requesting an impartial due process hearing at any time. You may simultaneously file a request for mediation and for an impartial due process hearing as described below.

# **Impartial Due Process Hearing**

An impartial due process hearing is a formal procedure conducted by an impartial hearing officer and is an option for families seeking to file an individual complaint on behalf of their child. Individual child complaints must be filed and received by the state lead agency within one (1) year of the alleged violation.

The complaint must include:

- A statement that the lead agency, public agency, or early intervention service provider has violated a requirement of Part C.
- The facts on which the statement is based.
- The signature and contact information for the person filing the complaint.
- If alleging violations with respect to a specific child:
  - ✓ The child's name and address where the child lives.
  - ✓ The name of the child's early intervention services provider.
  - ✓ A description of the nature of the child's problem, including facts relating to the problem.
  - ✓ A proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known and available at the time the complaint is filed.

The impartial due process hearing must be completed, and a written decision made, within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request. (Mediation, if attempted, must occur within the same 30 days.)

Impartial hearing officers are appointed to conduct the due process hearing and must have knowledge about the provisions of Part C and the needs of and services available for eligible children and their families, and must perform the following duties:

- Listen to the presentation of relevant information about the complaint, examine all information relevant to the issues, and seek to reach a timely resolution of the complaint.
- Provide a record of the proceedings at the cost of the state, including a written decision (hearing only).

Under Part C, you are given the rights listed below in any impartial due process hearing carried out under these procedures.

- To be accompanied and advised by counsel (at your expense) and by individuals with special knowledge or training about early intervention services for children eligible under Part C (at your expense).
- To present evidence and confront, cross-examine, and compel the attendance of witnesses.
- To prohibit the introduction of any evidence at the hearing that has not been disclosed to you at least five calendar days before the proceeding.
- To obtain a written or electronic verbatim (word by word) transcript of the hearing at no cost to you.
- To obtain written findings of fact and decisions at no cost to you.

The impartial due process hearing described in these procedures must be carried out at a time and place that is reasonably convenient to you. The impartial due process hearing must be completed, and a written decision must be mailed to each of the parties no later than 30 calendar days after the state lead agency receives your complaint. The hearing officer may grant specific extensions of time beyond the 30 days at the request of either party. Any party not satisfied with the findings and decision of the impartial due process hearing has the right to bring a civil action in state or federal court.

During the pendency (time period) of any proceeding involving a due process complaint, unless the lead agency/provider and you otherwise agree, your child and family will continue to receive the appropriate early intervention services in the setting identified in the IFSP to which you have consented.

If the complaint involves an application for initial services under Part C, your child and family must be provided those services that are not in dispute.

# **Administrative Complaints**

In addition to the mediation and due process hearing procedures listed above, an individual or organization (including those from another state) may file a written signed complaint against any participating agency/provider that is violating a requirement of the Part C program.

The complaint must include:

- A statement that the lead agency, public agency, or early intervention service provider has violated a requirement of Part C.
- The facts on which the statement is based.
- The signature and contact information for the person filing the complaint.
- If alleging violations with respect to a specific child:
  - ✓ The child's name and address where the child lives.
  - ✓ The name of the child's early intervention services provider.
  - ✓ A description of the nature of the child's problem, including facts relating to the problem.
  - ✓ A proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known and available at the time the complaint is filed.

Administrative complaints must be filed and received by the state lead agency within one (1) year of the alleged violation. The individual or agency filing the complaint must forward a copy of the complaint to the participating agency/provider serving the child at the same time the complaint is filed with the state lead agency.

Once the state lead agency has received the complaint, it has 60 calendar days to complete the following:

• Carry out an independent, on-site investigation, if the lead agency determines that an investigation is necessary.



- Give the individual or organization filing the complaint an opportunity to submit additional information, either orally or in writing, about the allegations in the complaint.
- Provide the agencies/providers with an opportunity to respond to the complaint, including, at the discretion of the lead agency, a proposal to resolve the complaint and an opportunity for all parties to engage in mediation.
- Review all relevant information and make an independent determination as to whether a violation of a Part C requirement
  has occurred.
- Issue a written decision to the person filing the complaint that addresses each allegation in the complaint and contains the findings of facts and conclusions as well as the reasons for the lead agency's final decision.

If the final decision indicates that appropriate services were not/are not being provided, the state lead agency must address:

- How to remediate the failure to provide appropriate services, including corrective actions appropriate to address the needs of the child
  who is the subject of the complaint and your family (such as compensatory services or monetary reimbursement); and
- Appropriate future provision of services for all infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

The state lead agency must include procedures for effective implementation of the decision, if needed, including technical assistance activities, negotiations, and corrective actions to achieve compliance.

If a written complaint is received that is also the subject of a due process hearing or contains multiple issues of which one or more are part of that hearing, the state lead agency must set aside any part of the complaint that is being addressed in the due process hearing until the conclusion of the hearing. However, any issue in the complaint that is not a part of the due process action must be resolved within the 60-calendar-day timeline and complaint procedures described in this document.

Complaints that have already been decided in an impartial due process hearing involving the same parties cannot be considered under this procedure. The state lead agency must notify the complainant that the hearing decision is binding.

A complaint alleging failure by a public agency or private service provider (including an early intervention services contractor or an early intervention services provider) to implement a due process decision must be resolved by the state lead agency.

## **Surrogate Parents**

The rights of children eligible under Part C are protected in the following situations:

- No parent can be identified;
- The participating agency/provider, after reasonable efforts, cannot locate a parent; or
- The child is a ward of the State of Idaho under the laws of the state. Legal custody of the child and all parental rights and responsibilities for the care and custody of the child have been terminated by court order or permanent entrustment agreement pursuant to applicable law.

An individual is assigned to act as a "surrogate" for the parent according to the procedures that follow.

These procedures include a method for determining whether a child needs a surrogate parent and making a reasonable effort to assign a surrogate to the child not more than 30 calendar days after determining the child needs a surrogate parent.

The following criteria are employed when selecting surrogates. Surrogate parents are selected at the local level and must meet the following requirements:

- Has no personal or professional interest that conflicts with the interest of the child he or she represents.
- Has knowledge and skills that ensure adequate representation of the child; and
- Is not an employee of any state agency; or an employee of any person providing early intervention services, education, care, or other services to the child or to any family member of the child. A person who otherwise qualifies to be a surrogate parent under these procedures is not an employee solely because he or she is paid by an early intervention service provider to serve as a surrogate parent.

When a child is a ward of the State of Idaho or placed in foster care, the state lead agency must consult with the public agency that has been assigned care of the child in appointing a surrogate parent.

For a child who is a ward of the State of Idaho, instead of being appointed by the state lead agency, a judge overseeing the child's case may appoint the surrogate parent as long as the selection meets the selection criteria above.



The surrogate parent has the same rights as a parent for all purposes under Part C.

## **Contact Information**

Idaho's Lead Agency for the Part C Early Intervention System is the Department of Health and Welfare, Infant Toddler Program.

To request mediation, file a general complaint, file a request for a due process hearing, or to find out more about complaint procedures in Idaho, please contact the state lead agency at:

Idaho Infant Toddler Program, Department of Health and Welfare 450 W. State Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boise, ID 83720-0036 Phone: (208) 334-5514, Fax: (208) 332-7331 Website: https://lnfantToddler.ldaho.gov

For questions regarding local services and resources, please call the Infant Toddler office nearest you:

	208-769-1409	208-736-2182			
REGION 1	Benewah Bonner Boundary Kootenai Shoshone	REGION 5	Blaine Camas Cassia Gooding Jerome	Lincoln Minidoka Twin Fall	
	208-798-4119		208-234-7947		
REGION 2	Clearwater Idaho Latah Lewis Nez Perce	REGION 6	Bannock Bear Lake Bingham Caribou	Franklin Oneida Power	
	208-465-8460		208-528-4060		
REGION 3	Adams Canyon Gem Owyhee Payette Washington	REGION 7	Bonneville Butte Clark Custer Fremont	Jeffersor Lemhi Madison Teton	n
REGION 4	208-334-0900 Ada Boise Elmore Valley	Parent Advocacy Resource Idaho Parents Unlimited. Inc. 4619 W. Emerald St., Suite E, Boise, ID 83706 Phone: (208) 342-5884, Fax: (208) 342-1408 Email: parents@ipulidaho.org Website: https://ipulidaho.org/			



For questions regarding other local services and resources please contact the *2-1-1 Idaho CareLine* by dialing **2-1-1** or **1-800-926-2588** or visiting <a href="https://211.idaho.gov">https://211.idaho.gov</a>

